## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

:

Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al.

Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed July 21, 2003

Serial No. 10/623,159

Attorney Docket No. 2003 1008A

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING HIGH-PURITY HYDROGEN

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1)	[] the	certification	of para	graph 2	below i	s provided,	or
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- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

## 2. It is hereby certified

- a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
  - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,

- the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at c. [] page,
- d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstracts,
- the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the e. [] reference:
- [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed. 5.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al.

Michael S. Huppert

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Attorney for Applicants

MSH/kjf Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 October 21, 2003

Sheet 1 of 1										
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Date Submitted to PTO: October 21, 2003				ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL 2003_1008A 10/62						
				APPLICANT Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al.						
				FILING DATE July 21, 2003			GROUP			
			U.	S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	Cl	ASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DA		
OIPE	AA	6,051,125	4/2000	Pham et al.					_	
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THADEMAN BE	AC									
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	AE									
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			FOR	EIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CI	.ASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSL/ YES	ATION NO	
	AJ	51-119703	10/1976	JP				Abstract		
	AK	51-142872	12/1976	JP		<u> </u>		Abstract		
	AL	51-142873	12/1976	JP				Abstract		
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	AQ							-		
EXAMINER				DATE CONS	SIDERED	. ,				

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.